



Department of Music  
University of Alberta

## In Recital

**KAREN HAMM, mezzo-soprano**

with

**MICHELLE CROUCH, piano**

**Saturday, March 2, 1991 at 8 pm**

Behold, a virgin shall conceive (1726)  
O Thou that tellest good tidings

George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759)

Jesus, did you know (1967)

Robert Fleming  
(1921-1976)

Letter to My Mother (1968)

George Fiala  
(b. 1921)

Excerpts from *Magnificat*  
Esurientes (1728-31)  
Et misericordia ((1728-31)

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Milton Liska, tenor

Voi, che sapete (1786)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

### INTERMISSION

Frauenliebe und Leben (1840)  
Seit ich ihn gesehen  
Er, der Herrlichste von allen  
Ich kann's nicht fassen, nicht glauben  
Du Ring on meinen Finger  
Helft, mir, ihr Schwestern  
Süsser Freund, du blickest  
An meinem Herzen, an meiner Brust  
Nun hast du mir den ersten Schmerz getan

Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)

Give me Jesus

Anonymous

Convocation Hall, Old Arts Building



## TRANSLATIONS

### Esurientes

He hath filled the hungry with good things;  
And the rich he hath sent empty away.

### Et misericordia

And his mercy is on them  
That fear Him from generation to generation.

### Voi, che sapete

You who know what love is,  
Ladies, look if I have it in my heart.  
What I feel, I shall tell you.  
It is new to me; I don't understand it.  
I feel an emotion full of desire  
which now is a delight and now is a torment.  
I am freezing and then I feel my soul afire  
and in an instant I turn to freezing.  
I am looking for something outside of me.  
I don't know who holds it; I don't know what it is.  
I sigh and moan without wanting to;  
I quiver and tremble without knowing it.  
I don't find peace either night or day  
and yet I enjoy languishing like that.  
You who know what love is,  
Ladies, look if I have it in my heart.

### Fraunliebe und leben

#### Seit ich ihn gesehen

Since first I saw him, I have seemed to be blind.  
Wherever I look I see only him.  
As in a waking dream, his image hovers before me,  
Emerging from deepest darkest ever more brightly.  
Everything else is dark and colorless around me.  
My sister's games I no longer wish to share,  
But would rather weep quietly in my little chamber,  
Since first I saw him, I have seemed to be blind.

### Er, der Herrlichste von allen

He, the most magnificent of all men,  
how gentle he is, how good.  
Tender lips, bright eyes, a clear mind and firm courage.  
Just as there in the deep-blue distance  
Bright and magnificent yonder star  
So does he shine in my sky  
Bright and magnificent, distant and sublime.  
Go, go your way, only let me gaze at your radiance.  
Gaze at it in humility  
To be but blissful and sad.  
Do not listen to my silent prayer  
Devoted to your happiness alone  
You shall never know me, a lowly maid,  
You noble star of glory.  
Only the worthiest of all shall exalt your choice  
and I will bless this sublime woman many a thousand times.  
Then I shall rejoice and weep  
Blissful, blissful I will be even if my heart should break  
Break, oh heart, what does it matter?  
He, the most magnificent of all men,  
how gentle he is, how good.

### Ich kann's nicht fassen, nicht glauben

I can't grasp it, can't believe it  
A dream has beguiled me.  
How could he from amongst all others  
Have exalted and blessed poor me?  
It seemed as if he had said,  
"I am forever yours"  
It seemed to me as if I were still dreaming  
After all, it can never be so.  
O let me die in my dream cradled on his breast.  
Let me sip the bliss of death amidst tears of infinite joy.  
I can't grasp it, can't believe it.  
A dream has beguiled me  
How could he be amongst all the others  
Have exalted and blessed poor me?

### Du Ring an meinem Finger

You ring on my finger, my golden little ring.  
I press you devoutly to my lips, to my heart.  
My dream had come to an end  
the peaceful, lovely dream of childhood.  
I found myself alone, lost in bleak, infinite space.  
You ring on my finger, only then you taught me,  
opened my eyes to life's infinite deep value.  
I want to serve him, life for him, belong to him completely,  
give myself to him and find myself transfigured in his radiance.  
You ring on my finger, my golden little ring.  
I press you devoutly to my lips, to my heart.

### Helft mir, ihr Schwestern

Help me, sisters, kindly adorn me.  
Serve me today in my joy.  
Busily braid about my forehead the wreath of blossoming myrtle.  
When with contentment and joy in my heart  
I lay embraced by my beloved.  
He still called with longing heart impatiently for this very day.  
Help me, sisters, help me to banish a foolish fearfulness,  
so that with bright eyes I may receive him,  
He, the well of all joyousness.  
My beloved, you have appeared to me  
Do you give me your radiance, oh my sun?  
Let me worship and in humility bow before my master.  
Scatter flowers, oh sisters, scatter flowers before him,  
bring him budding roses.  
but you, sisters, I greet with sadness as I joyfully depart from your  
midst.

### Süßer Freund, du blickest

Sweet friend, you look at me in wonder  
You cannot understand how I can weep; let the unfamiliar  
adornment of these moist pearls  
tremble joyfully bright in my eyes.  
How fearful my heart is, how blissful.  
If only I had the words to say it;  
come and hide your face here upon my breast  
I shall whisper all my joys into your ear.  
Do you now understand the tears that I can shed?  
Should you not see them, my beloved man?  
Stay near to my heart; feel its beat,  
so that I may press you ever more closely to me.  
Here by my bed there is room for the cradle.  
where it may quietly conceal my lovely dream,  
the morning will come when the dream awakens  
and from it your likeness shall smile at me.  
Your likeness!

### An meinem Herzen, an meiner Brust

On my heart, on my breast  
You my bliss, you my joy!  
Happiness is love, love is happiness.  
I've said it and won't take it back!  
I considered myself rapturous  
but now I am happier than ever.

Only she who nurses, only she who loves the child to  
whom she gives nourishment;  
only a mother knows what it means to love and be happy.  
How I pity the man who will never feel a mother's joy.  
You dear, dear angel you, you look at me and you smile.  
On my heart, on my breast,  
You my bliss, you my joy.

### Nun hast du mir den ersten Schmerz getan

Now for the first time you have caused me pain,  
but it's struck its mark.  
You sleep, you hard pitiless man, the sleep of death.  
The forsaken one stares around herself, the world is empty.  
I have loved and I have lived, I am alive no longer.  
I silently withdraw into myself, the veil is falling.  
There I have you and my lost happiness, you, my world.